

**New Shoreham Recreation Board
Tuesday, December 16, 2014
Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Road
8:15 a.m.**

Present: Chair Chris Willi, Members: Susie Wright, Sarah Sue Deane and Ann Hall. Also present were Recreation Director Robert Closter and for the recording of minutes, Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes. Absent: Member Gail Heinz.

Chris Willi called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Approve Minutes for October 21, 2014

Ms. Hall moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2014. Mr. Willi seconded the motion and it carried.

4 Ayes (Hall, Wright, Deane, Willi) 0 Nays 1 Absent (Heinz)

3. Old Business

a. Discuss 2015 Recreation Survey

The committee members reviewed the draft survey provided by Director Closter. They decided to release the survey on January 6, 2015 to run through mid February. It will be distributed through the Recreation email list, the Block Island Bulletin Board, the Block Island Times website and the Chamber of Commerce website.

4. New Business

a. Discuss Recreation Assistant

Director Closter distributed a draft budget showing the costs of a year-round Recreation Assistant position at both 34 hours and 40 hours. He noted that the majority of the costs would be absorbed by the reduction of need aide hours. The following reasons in support of a fulltime assistant were discussed:

- The costs will be mostly offset by a reduction of aide staffing.
- The need is there. The department is understaffed and hosts a large number of programs and events.
- It would allow for operational efficiencies, as some temporary, seasonal employees would not need to be hired.
- There would be a cost savings in not having to hire and train seasonally.
- The assistant would allow the department to cover Heinz Field maintenance, as Highways Supervisor is not confident that his department can address the need.

Mr. Willi volunteered to draft a letter to the Town Manager explaining the benefits of funding a Recreation Assistant position.

b. Discuss and Act on 2015 Meeting Dates

Mr. Willi moved to set 2015 meeting schedule – meeting the third Tuesday of the month

at 8:15 a.m., with no meetings the months of July and August. Ms. Hall seconded the motion and it carried.

4 Ayes (Hall, Wright, Deane, Willi) 0 Nays 1 Absent (Heinz)

c. Discuss Board Members Terms

The board members terms were reviewed.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Willi made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hall and passed unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: February 17, 2015